



NOVENA TO THE HOLY GHOST

Indulgences:

Those who devoutly assist at the public novena in honor of the Holy Ghost immediately preceding the Feast of Pentecost, may gain: (1) An indulgence of 10 years on any day of the novena; (2) A plenary indulgence, if they take part in at least five of the exercises on condition of Confession, Communion and prayer for the intentions of the Sovereign Pontiff.

Those who make a private novena in honor of the Holy Ghost either before Pentecost or at any other time of the year, may gain: (1) An indulgence of seven years once on any day of their novena; (2) A plenary indulgence on condition of Confession, Communion and prayer for the intentions of the Sovereign Pontiff at the close of the novena; but if a public novena is held, this indulgence is available only to those who are lawfully hindered from taking part in it.

(Enchiridion Indulgentiarum No. 284)

FIRST DAY

***Holy Spirit! Lord of Light!
From Thy clear celestial height
Thy pure beaming radiance give!***

THE HOLY GHOST

Only one thing is important - Eternal Salvation! Only one thing, therefore, is to be feared - Sin! Sin is the result of ignorance, weakness and indifference. The Holy Ghost is the Spirit of Light, of Strength, and of Love. With His sevenfold gifts He enlightens the mind, strengthens the will and inflames the heart with love of God. To ensure our salvation, we ought to invoke the Divine Spirit, daily, for "The Spirit helpeth our infirmity. We know not what we should pray for as we ought. But, the Spirit Himself asketh for us."

PRAYER

Almighty and Eternal God, Who hast vouchsafed to regenerate us by water and Holy Ghost, and hast given us forgiveness of all sins, vouchsafe to send forth from Heaven upon us Thy sevenfold Spirit, the Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding, the Spirit of Counsel and Fortitude, the Spirit of Knowledge and Piety, and fill us with the Spirit of Holy Fear. Amen.

Prayers below to be offered, daily, after the Novena meditation.

ACT OF CONSECRATION TO THE HOLY GHOST

On my knees, before the great multitude of heavenly witnesses, I offer myself, soul and body, to Thee, Eternal Spirit of God. I adore the brightness of Thy purity, the unerring keenness of Thy justice and the might of Thy Love. Thou art the strength and light of my soul. In Thee, I live and move and

am. I desire never to grieve Thee by unfaithfulness to grace, and I pray with all my heart to be kept from the smallest sin against Thee.

Mercifully guard my every thought and grant that I may always watch for Thy light, and listen to Thy voice, and follow Thy gracious inspirations. I cling to Thee and give myself to Thee and ask Thee, by Thy compassion, to watch over me in my weakness. Holding the pierced Feet of Jesus, and looking at His five Wounds, and trusting in His Precious Blood, and adoring His opened side and stricken Heart, I implore Thee, Adorable Spirit, Helper of my infirmity, so to keep me in Thy grace that I may never sin against Thee. Give me grace, O Holy Ghost, Spirit of the Father and the Son, to say to Thee always and everywhere: ***“Speak Lord, for Thy servant heareth.”*** Amen.

A PRAYER FOR THE SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY GHOST

OLORD JESUS CHRIST

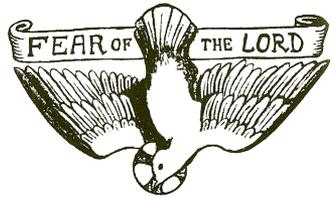
Who, before ascending into Heaven, didst promise to send the Holy Ghost to finish Thy work in the souls of thy apostles and disciples, deign to grant the same Holy Spirit to me that He may perfect in my soul the work of Thy grace and Thy love. Grant me the Spirit of Wisdom that I may despise the perishable things of this world and aspire only after the things that are eternal; the Spirit of Understanding to enlighten my mind with the Light of Thy Divine Truth; the Spirit of Counsel that I may ever choose the surest way of pleasing God and gaining Heaven; the Spirit of Fortitude that I may bear my cross with Thee and that I may overcome with courage all the obstacles that oppose my

salvation; the Spirit of Knowledge that I may know God and know myself and grow perfect in the science of the Saints; the Spirit of Piety that I may find the service of God sweet and amiable; the Spirit of Fear that I may be filled with a loving reverence towards God and may dread in any way to displease Him. Mark me, dear Lord, with the sign of thy true disciples and animate me in all things with Thy Spirit! Amen.

(7 Our Father, 7 Hail Mary, 7 Glory Be)

SECOND DAY

***Come, Thou Father of the poor!
Come, with treasures which endure!
Come, Thou light of all that live!***



THE GIFT OF FEAR

The Gift of Fear fills us with a sovereign respect for God, and makes us dread nothing so much as to offend Him by sin. It is a fear that arises, not from the thought of Hell, but from sentiments of reverence and filial submission to our heavenly Father. It is the fear that is the beginning of wisdom, detaching us from the worldly pleasures that could in any way separate us from God. ***“They that fear the Lord will prepare their hearts and, in His sight, will sanctify their souls.”***

PRAYER

Come, O Blessed Spirit of Holy Fear, penetrate my inmost heart that I may set Thee, my Lord and God, before my face forever; help me to shun all things that can offend Thee, and make me worthy to appear

before the pure Eyes of Thy Divine Majesty in Heaven, where Thou livest and reignest in the unity of the ever Blessed Trinity, God, world without end. Amen.

THIRD DAY

*Thou, of all consolers best,
Visiting the troubled breast,
Dost refreshing peace bestow.*



THE GIFT OF PIETY

The Gift of Piety begets in our hearts a filial affection for God as our most loving Father. It inspires us to love and respect, for His sake, persons and things consecrated to Him, as well as those who are vested with His authority, His Blessed Mother and the Saints, the Church and its visible Head, our parents and superiors, our country and its rulers. He, who is filled with the Gift of Piety, finds the practice of his religion, not a burdensome duty, but a delightful service. Where there is love, there is no labor.



PRAYER

Come, O Blessed Spirit, possess my heart. Enkindle therein such a love for God that I may find satisfaction only in His service and for His sake lovingly submit to all legitimate authority. Amen.

FOURTH DAY

*Thou in toil art comfort sweet;
Pleasant coolness in the heart;
Solace in the midst of woe.*



THE GIFT OF FORTITUDE

By the Gift of Fortitude, the soul is strengthened against natural fear, and supported to the end in the performance of duty. Fortitude imparts to the will an impulse and energy which move it to undertake, without hesitancy, the most arduous tasks, to face dangers, to trample under foot human respect, and to endure without complaint the slow martyrdom of even lifelong tribulation. "He that shall persevere unto the end, he shall be saved."

PRAYER

Come, O Blessed Spirit of Fortitude, uphold my soul in time of trouble and adversity, sustain my efforts after holiness, strengthen my weakness, give me courage against all the assaults of my enemies, that I may never be overcome and separated from Thee, my God and greatest Good. Amen.